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APR 13 2007

Amendments to Claims

1 (currently amended): An odor neutralized A hot melt adhesive composition comprising a hot melt adhesive and a nonencapsulated odor neutralizing material, which odor neutralizing material reduces or counteracts malodors present in the hot melt adhesive.

2 (original): The adhesive of claim 1 wherein the neutralizing material has a flashpoint of greater than 100°F.

3 (original): The adhesive of claim 2 wherein the neutralizing material has a flashpoint of greater than 200°F.

4-5 (canceled)

6 (currently amended): The adhesive of claim 2 or 3 ~~4 or 5~~, wherein the adhesive is a rubber based adhesive containing a hydrocarbon tackifier, a terpene tackifier, or a mixture thereof.

7 (original): The adhesive of claim 1 which is a pressure sensitive adhesive.

8 (previously amended): The adhesive of claim 1 which can be applied at temperatures below 300°F.

9 (currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising an odor neutralized a hot melt adhesive composition, which composition comprises a hot melt adhesive and containing a nonencapsulated odor neutralizing material, which odor neutralizing material reduces or counteracts malodors present in the hot melt adhesive.

10 (previously amended): The article of claim 9 which is a book, a label, a case or carton, or a nonwoven article.

11 (previously amended): The article of claim 9 which is a disposable absorbent article comprising a liquid-permeable topsheet, a liquid-impermeable backsheet, a fluid-absorbent core material positioned between the topsheet and the backsheet and said hot melt adhesive containing said nonencapsulated neutralizing material.

12 (original): The article of claim 9 wherein the neutralizing material has a closed cup flashpoint of greater than 100°F.

13 (original): The article of claim 12 wherein the neutralizing material has a closed cup flashpoint of greater than 200°F.

14-15 (canceled)

16 (currently amended): The article of claim 12 or 13 ~~14 or 15~~, wherein the adhesive is a rubber based adhesive containing a hydrocarbon tackifier, a terpene tackifier, or a mixture thereof.

17 (original): The article of claim 11 wherein the fluid absorbent core material comprises a nonwoven fabric.

18 (original): The article of claim 11 wherein the backsheet is attached to the topsheet.

19 (original): The article of claim 11 which is a diaper, a feminine hygiene product or adult incontinent product.

20 (original): The article of claim 11 wherein the hot melt adhesive is a pressure sensitive hot melt adhesive.

21 (currently amended): A method of reducing or counteracting malodors present in a hot melt adhesive comprising adding to a malodorous hot melt adhesive an amount of a nonencapsulated odor neutralizing material effective to reduce or counteract the malodor to a desired degree.

22 (previously amended): The method of claim 21 wherein the hot melt adhesive comprises a malodorous tackifier.

23 (previously amended): The method of claim 21 wherein the neutralizing material is added to the hot melt adhesive with the tackifier.

24 (canceled)

25 (new): The method of claim 21 wherein the neutralizing material has a closed cup flashpoint of greater than 100°F.

26 (new): The method of claim 25 wherein the neutralizing material has a closed cup flashpoint of greater than 200°F.

27 (new): The method of claim 21 wherein the malodorous hot melt adhesive is a rubber based adhesive containing a hydrocarbon tackifier, a terpene tackifier, or a mixture thereof.